

Practitioner's Docket No. U 015074-0

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ABHAY SHARMA

Serial No.: 10/798,236

Group No.: 1618

Filed: MARCH 11, 2004

Examiner: PERREIRA, MELISSA JEAN

For: PROCEDURE FOR SCREENING OF NEUROACTIVE SUBSTANCE AND THE
ASSOCIATED NEURAL PLASTICITY

CONFIRMATION NO: 3561

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION ACCOMPANYING UNENTERED AMENDMENT

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested.

Remarks

This paper is being submitted with the unentered amendment after final rejection. In the Advisory Action the examiner stated that the amendment to claim 11 raises new matter because “the specification does not appear to provide for the exclusion of the exposure of multiple neuroactive drugs.”

Contrary to what the examiner stated, the specification provides support for exposure to a single neuroactive drug. The examiner’s attention is drawn to example 2 where it is described that thirty male flies were shifted to each of seven treatment vials. Six of the seven treatment vials contained only one neuroactive agent: strychnine (STR), pentylenetetrazol (PTZ), pilocarpine-hydrochloride (PILO), tetraethylammonium chloride (TEA), lithium chloride (LICA) or ethosuximide (ESD). See page 7, lines 12-14. The use of a single neuroactive drug is also discussed in example 4, example 5, and tables 1 to 5.

Therefore, it is clear that the amendment to claim 11 is not new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' and 'C' that are intertwined, with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

JANET I. CORD

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